

To: Robinson, Bonnie[Robinson.Bonnie@epa.gov]
From: **Personal Email/Ex. 6**
Sent: Tue 8/11/2015 1:33:22 PM
Subject: Re: EPA working on site when gold mine toxic waste spilled into the Animas River near Durango, CO

Haaay,

This is another tragedy and another mark against the USEPA. I agree with ya as to the how this happened....inexperience and low-bid combination....

Question? Is it possible to go back to the mining company and get them to pay for any or this?

Anita

From: "Bonnie Robinson" <Robinson.Bonnie@epa.gov>
To: "Anicum" **Personal Email/Ex. 6**
Sent: Friday, August 7, 2015 4:30:27 PM
Subject: Fw: EPA working on site when gold mine toxic waste spilled into the Animas River near Durango, CO

I'll bet it was inexperienced EPA staff + lowest bid contractors. What a mess.

here's more from the BNA report:

EPA Triggers Release of Mine Waste Into Animas River

Posted August 07, 2015, 12:37 P.M. ET

By [Tripp Baltz](#)

The Environmental Protection Agency accidentally triggered a 1-million-gallon release of toxic mine waste into a tributary of the Animas River in southwest Colorado, sending an orange-tinted pulse of contaminated water, sediment and metals down the river.

An EPA and Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety team "unexpectedly" caused the spill Aug. 5 while working to investigate and remediate contamination at the Gold King Mine near the upper portions of Cement Creek in San Juan County, the EPA said in a statement. No workers were harmed.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has notified water users downstream of the release so they can turn off intakes and take other steps as the contaminated water passes.

From: Robinson, Bonnie
Sent: Friday, August 7, 2015 3:46 PM
To: Steve Hoffman; Anicum

Subject: EPA working on site when gold mine toxic waste spilled into the Animas River near Durango, CO

OOPS!!!! (where's our friend Mark?) I hope this isn't EPA's fault - they were just trying to fix the situation. Question is, did they know what they were doing?

3 articles - the videos show the mess

<http://www.durangoherald.com/article/20150806/NEWS01/150809720//article/20150806/NEWS01/150809720>
[to-plug-the-Gold-King-Mine-backfire-](http://www.durangoherald.com/article/20150806/NEWS01/150809720//article/20150806/NEWS01/150809720)

<http://www.durangoherald.com/article/20150806/NEWS01/150809765/Catastrophe-on-the-Animas>

<http://www.durangoherald.com/article/20150806/NEWS01/150809722/What's-next-for-dealing-with-toxic-river-flow?>



